

Application No. 09/594,513
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 dated May 26, 2004
Response to the Office Action of February 26, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 8 were canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1-6 and 9-12 remain pending. The Office Action indicated that claims 3 – 6 and 9 were merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are otherwise allowable. The indication of allowable subject matter is appreciated. Claim 9 has been amended into independent form. Claims 10 and 12 were amended to depend from claim 9. Therefore, claims 9, 10, and 12 are now in condition for allowance. The remaining prior art rejections are respectfully traversed below.

The Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 over **Ishikawa** (USP 6,323,902). Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over **Ishikawa**, in view of **Endsley et al.** (USP 6,005,613). Claims 7 and 8 were canceled. Claims 10 and 12 depend from allowable independent claim 9. Therefore, only claims 1, 2, and 11 remain rejected. However, it is submitted that nothing in the prior art teaches or suggests all the features recited in amended independent claim 1. For instance, amended claim 1 recites a connector which is “directly provided on the image pickup device without an external cable.” The prior art does not disclose at least this feature. The video camera disclosed in **Ishikawa** has a signal wire 58, instead. The signal wire 58 of **Ishikawa** does not teach or suggest the present claimed connector *directly provided on the image pickup device without an external cable* in amended claim 1. Claims 2 and 11 depend from claim 1 and distinguish over the prior art for at least the reasons claim 1 distinguishes over the prior art. For at

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least these reasons, the present claimed invention patentably distinguishes over the prior art. Therefore, the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If for any reason it is believed that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for disposition of this case

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully Submitted,

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